WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS ELECTRIC COMPANY

MDPU No. 974 Cancels MDPU No. 926

OPTIONAL CONTROLLED WATER HEATING SCHEDULE 23 Page 1 of 2

APPLICABILITY:

This rate is applicable to the use of electricity for controlled water heating of any customer other than residential, except as noted herein. Available to residential customers where electricity supplies a portion of, but is not the sole source of, domestic hot water. Also available for centrally supplied water heating in apartment buildings.

This rate is not available for any space heating or for commercial or industrial processes.

RATE - Per month:

CUSTOMER CHARGE:	\$18.06			
DISTRIBUTION/ACCESS CHARGE:	7.5210? per kWh			
TRANSMISSION CHARGE:	0.1300? per kWh			
GENERATION CHARGE:	2.8000? per kWh			

ADJUSTMENT IN RATE DUE TO COST OF FUEL:

Subject to the applicable provisions of Section 94G of Chapter l64 of the General Laws, there shall be an adjustment in rate due to cost of fuel as provided in the Company's Fuel Expense Adjustment Clause in effect from time to time.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

Service under this schedule will be supplied only at such hours as the Company may deem advisable, timing equipment being under the sole control of the Company. All water heaters and apparatus incidental thereto are subject to the Company's approval as to type and size.

MINIMUM MONTHLY CHARGE:

The minimum charge is the customer charge.

TERMS:

The Company's Terms and Conditions in effect from time to time, where not inconsistent with any specific provisions hereof, are a part of this rate schedule.

Issued per Order in	For Bills Rendered On
dated	and After July 1, 1997

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MDPU No. 974 Cancels MDPU No. 926

OPTIONAL CONTROLLED WATER HEATING SCHEDULE 23 Page 2 of 2

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Customers served under this rate must provide the Company with two years prior written notice before: (1) purchasing, allowing to be purchased, or using electricity from any source other than the Company; or (2) installing or allowing to be installed for its use a non-emergency generator with a nameplate capacity greater than that in place on the Customer's location as of June 1, 1994. Also, customers receiving service under this or superseding rate schedule may not change to another rate schedule within the first 12 months of the service.

Issued per Order in ______dated

For Bills Rendered On and After July 1, 1997